We Claim:

1. A configurable antenna system comprising:

an antenna arrangement for selectively varying between first and second operational positions such that:

wherein in the first operational position, the antenna arrangement operates in an omni-directional antenna mode; and

wherein in the second operational position, the antenna arrangement operates in a directional antenna mode; the antenna system further comprising:

a signal reflecting member for cooperating with the antenna arrangement in the second operational position, to substantially establish the antenna arrangement in a directional antenna mode configuration.

2. The antenna system of claim 1 wherein the antenna arrangement comprises a diversity pair of omni-directional antennas.

3. The antenna system of claim 2 wherein the diversity pair of omni-directional antennas is formed on a circuit board.

4. The antenna system of claim 1 further comprising a switch for detecting whether the antenna arrangement is in a respective one of the first operational position, for enabling the omni-directional antenna mode, and the second operational position, for enabling the directional operational mode.

5. The antenna system of claim 1 further comprising a pivot member for pivotally varying the antenna arrangement between the first and second antenna positions.

6. The antenna system of claim 5 wherein the first operational position is substantially perpendicular with respect to a housing component, and wherein the second operational position is substantially parallel with respect to the housing component.

7. The antenna system of claim 5 wherein in the second operational position, the antenna arrangement is substantially proximate to the signal reflecting member, so as to provide a signal reflection from the antenna arrangement.

8. The antenna system of claim 1 wherein the signal reflecting member is formed integrally with a metal housing.

9. The antenna system of claim 1 wherein the antenna system is incorporated in a wireless access point for use with a wireless local area network.

10. A wireless access point for a wireless local area network comprising:

a radio component comprising suitable radio electronics circuitry for converting electronic signals back and forth into wireless radio frequency signals;

an antenna arrangement for transmitting and receiving the wireless radio frequency signals, and for selectively varying between first and second operational positions such that:

wherein in the first operational position, the antenna arrangement operates in an omni-directional antenna mode; and

wherein in the second operational position, the antenna arrangement operates in a directional antenna mode; the antenna system further comprising:

a signal reflecting member for cooperating with the antenna arrangement in the second operational position, to substantially establish the antenna arrangement in a directional antenna mode configuration.

11. The wireless access point of claim 10 wherein the antenna arrangement comprises a diversity pair of omni-directional antennas.

12. The wireless access point of claim 11 wherein the diversity pair of omni-directional antennas is formed on a circuit board.

13. The wireless access point of claim 10 further comprising a switch for detecting whether the antenna arrangement is in a respective one of the first operational position, for enabling the omni-directional antenna mode, and the second operational position, for enabling the directional operational mode.

14. The wireless access point of claim 10 further comprising a pivot member for pivotally varying the antenna arrangement between the first and second antenna positions.

15. The wireless access point of claim 14 wherein the first operational position is substantially perpendicular with respect to a housing component, and wherein the second operational position component is substantially parallel with respect to the housing component.

16. The wireless access point of claim 14 wherein in the second operational position, the antenna arrangement is substantially proximate to the signal reflecting member, so as to provide a signal reflection from the antenna arrangement.

17. The wireless access point of claim 11 wherein the signal reflecting member is formed integrally with a reflective access point housing.

18. The wireless access point of claim 10 wherein the radio component comprises means for converting signals between a wireless protocol and a wired network protocol.

19. The wireless access point of claim 18 wherein the means for converting signals converts from between the IEEE 802.11 wireless protocol and the IEEE 802.3 wired network protocol.

20. In a wireless telecommunications system, a method of antenna operation comprising:

providing an antenna arrangement for selectively varying between first and second operational positions;

displacing the antenna arrangement to the first operational position where the antenna arrangement operates in an omni-directional antenna mode;

displacing the antenna arrangement to the second operational position where the antenna arrangement cooperates with a signal reflecting member for operating in a directional antenna mode.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the step of providing an antenna arrangement comprises providing a diversity pair of omni-directional antennas.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein the step of providing an antenna arrangement further comprises providing a diversity pair of omni-directional antennas formed on a circuit board.

23. The method of claim 20 further comprising a step of detecting whether the antenna arrangement is in a respective one of the first operational position, for enabling the omni-directional antenna mode, and the second operational position, for enabling the directional operational mode.

24. The method of claim 21 further comprising a step of pivotally varying the antenna arrangement between the first and second antenna positions.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein the step of displacing the antenna arrangement to the first operational position comprises displacing the antenna arrangement to a position substantially perpendicular with respect to a housing component.

26. The method of claim 24 wherein the step of displacing the antenna arrangement to the second operational position comprises displacing the antenna arrangement to a position substantially parallel with respect to the housing component.

27. The method of claim 20 wherein in the second operational position, the antenna arrangement is substantially proximate to the signal reflecting member, so as to reflect a signal from the antenna arrangement.